

was vastly different when he proposed 48 new species of *Allo-carya* from that when he wrote *The Flora of Washington*; St. John's treatments show a comparable unevenness. In his treatment of *Rosa*, St. John recognizes 8 species, 3 varieties and 3 "doubtless undescribed" species, and of these 4 species and 1 variety are described as new. George Neville Jones, during a recent study (*Madroño* 3: 120-135, 1935) saw the type collections of all of these but accepted only 9 species and 6 varieties of *Rosa* for the entire state of Washington.

The inclusion of more than forty *formae*, nearly half of them color-forms, is a precedent that few western botanists are likely to follow. That these may have a place in monographs seems defensible, but they seem completely out of place and pedagogically undesirable in a manual. Probably no one will criticize the adoption of the Englerian arrangement but not all will agree with St. John that the Engler and Prantl system "seems the best" arrangement of plant families.

However, the points taken issue with here are largely matters of individual preference and reflect the influence of one taxonomic school. St. John has been highly successful in producing a thoroughly workmanlike, up-to-date and usable flora for southeastern Washington, which will be of value to botanists everywhere but will be an especial boon to those teaching systematic botany within the area covered.—LINCOLN CONSTANCE.

NOTES AND NEWS

Word has been received from Japan that Dr. William A. Setchell of the Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley, was elected an honorary member of the Botanical Society of Japan at the general meeting held in Sapporo on July 29, 1937.

Dr. Francis W. Pennell, curator of plants at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, spent the months of June, July, and August collecting Scrophulariaceae principally in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. An especial effort was made to follow the trail of Lewis and Clark through Idaho, and so to determine the type locality of *Penstemon fruticosus* (Pursh) Greene.

Miss Sarah C. Dyal, who is studying the Valerianaceae at Cornell University, has been visiting Pacific Coast institutions this summer. She assisted in the University of Wyoming summer school, and plans to spend the winter at Oregon State College, at Corvallis. In the spring, Miss Dyal hopes to gain further field knowledge of the genus *Plectritis* in California and the Northwest.

The Associate Students' store, University of California, Berkeley, reports that the *Manual of the Flowering Plants of California*,

by W. L. Jepson, is now out of print. It is to be hoped that a new and revised edition of this valuable work will be soon forthcoming.

Dr. Artemio V. Manza, who received the degree of doctor of philosophy from the University of California in May, 1937, left Berkeley on August 11, 1937, for Canton, China, where he has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Botany in Lingnan University. Dr. Manza came to this country about ten years ago from the Philippine Islands, first studying plant pathology and then specializing in phycology. He has done considerable work on the jointed corallines, a large group of red algae, recently publishing a revision of the genera in this group.

On September 8, 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Sharsmith left Berkeley for Pullman, Washington, where Mr. Sharsmith will take up his duties as instructor in the Department of Botany and Curator of the Herbarium, State College of Washington. For the past two years he has been teaching assistant in systematic botany at the University of California, Berkeley, and for the past year Mrs. Sharsmith has been instructor in biology at Mills College, California.

Mr. Joseph A. Ewan has accepted a position in the Department of Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder. For several years he has been at the University of California, Berkeley, where he assisted Dr. W. L. Jepson with the *Flora of California*.

Mr. F. Raymond Fosberg, recently on the faculty of the University of Hawaii, has received a fellowship at the Morris Arboretum, University of Pennsylvania. Before leaving for the east in August, 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Fosberg spent several days visiting herbaria in Los Angeles and in the San Francisco Bay region.

A survey of the trees of Amador County has recently been completed by Mr. Guy Towsley, principal of schools in Jackson, California. The work was carried on under the guidance of Dr. E. E. Stanford, College of the Pacific, Stockton, California, and is filed in the library of that institution.

Dr. Ruth Harmon has been appointed instructor in bacteriology and botany at Mills College, California. Dr. Harmon, who received the degree of doctor of medicine at Friborg, Germany, will also assist in the Mills College clinic.

Dr. Walter Robyns, Director of the State Botanical Garden, Brussels, Belgium, visited the University of California on September 10, 1937. He is making a study of American and European herbaria and botanic gardens with a view to the reestablishment of the garden and herbarium at Brussels as the growth of that city has made it necessary to find a new location for the

garden. Dr. Robyns has been commissioned by the Belgian government to visit our national parks in the interest of further development of the Parc National Albert at Kivu, Belgian Congo. On his trip west, he visited the parks in the northern part of the United States. On September 21 he sailed for the Hawaiian Islands where he will spend about ten days. Upon his return to this country, he will complete his tour of the national parks.

The following recently published monographic treatments are of interest to botanists of western North America:

"The genus *Youngia*," by Ernest B. Babcock and G. Ledyard Stebbins, Jr. Carnegie Institution of Washington, Publication No. 464, 106 pages, 5 plates, 31 text figures, August 19, 1937. This group of Asiatic composites closely related to *Crepis* has been found on cytological and taxonomic evidence to be distinct from that genus. Twenty-seven species, grouped under six sections are recognized. In the introduction the authors discuss the following subjects: taxonomic history of the genus, criteria of classification, relationships of the genus and of the sections, geographic distribution.

"The North American species of *Rumex*," by K. H. Rechinger, Jr. Field Museum of Natural History, Publication No. 386, 151 pages, 25 plates, June 24, 1937. Forty-seven species are recognized: these are treated under three subgenera; *Acetosella*, 2 species; *Acetosa*, 4 species; *Lapathum*, 41 species. Under this latter group two new sections are proposed: *Axillares*, 18 species; *Simplices*, 23 species. In the introduction Dr. Rechinger discusses the distinctive characters and geographic distribution of section *Axillares* which has its principal area of distribution in North America. Users of the volume will appreciate the consistently clear statements as to how the author's interpretations of certain specific units differ from those of current floras and manuals.

"The genus *Bidens*," by Earl Edward Sherff. Field Museum of Natural History, Publication No. 388, 346 pages, 88 plates, August 31, 1937. The introduction comprises a historical survey of the taxonomy of the genus and mention of work done with reference to it in such fields as morphology, histology, ecology and relation to insect pollination. The systematic treatment includes: description of the genus; synopses of the fourteen recognized sections; descriptions of species; citations of specimens and comment. All keys, descriptions and synopses are in Latin. In this cosmopolitan group of composites two hundred thirty-three species are recognized and keyed out; of these, one hundred one are treated systematically in Part I. The major sections of the key are geographic, as follows: Pacific islands; North and Central America and the West Indies; South America; eastern hemisphere exclusive of Africa; Africa, an arrangement which adds greatly to the usefulness of the monograph in any particular region.